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James B. Finley Letters

2-8-1826

Letter from George Washington Maley to James B. Finley

George Washington Maley

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McLean
about J. McLean

12th
Siqua Dr. James B. Finley - Missionary
Upper Lancaster

~~Dr. J. B. Finley~~

~~Dr. J. B. Finley~~

~~Dr. J. B. Finley~~

Siqua 8th Febry A.D. 1826

Wednesday evening

Bro Finley

Yours of the 15th Jan. I received & it now lies before me. As often as I read it, I am astonished at its contents. I little ever expected to receive such an inflammatory letter from James B. Finley. The charges suggested in your communication, against myself in the first place, & against the Society of this Town, in the second place are both without a foundation in rightness. John McLean, the Mission Pupil, was directed to the house of Wm. McLean. You know he had gone to the Capitol. Sister M- was in a very delicate situation at that time & could not give him a permanent reception into her family. I also was out on my Ct. & till my return (3 days) he was sent to Bro. St. Clair, at the Union Hall, where he was entertained suitably. When I got to Town, I sought out a place, & as I believed a suitable place for him, at Bro. M. Rayals, a man, who with his

Wife = an amiable couple of undoubted piety.
such he ought to be for he is an Exhorter &
Leader. John was fed with the same food
& ate at the same table & slept often with
Father Eby. Sister R. & Father or with Fletcher
their little son. as it respects their irregularity
of meals. Bro. M. the Teacher will say he was
not deprived of attendance at school at the
usual hours. As it respects cutting wood
for his Host & myself, it was generally a "free
will-offering" - for my family. He cut, my wife
says. three or four times. a little & beat a little.

Sister Royal also put the question to John
about his shirt. but for the sake of getting
him to talk. I also often explained to
him that I would get him what he wanted
& when he wanted any thing to let me know.
I conversed with ^{him} every time I came home &
invited him to my room. & to my table.
I also loaned a horse &c. for him to ride with
me to my appointment. but a few days
before his departure, he had often talked
of going home but was as often dissuaded
from it. ask him why? he answered only
"home sick home sick" & when he left us

he went without our knowledge. for he knew if
he proposed it we would discourage him from
it. - I need not multiply Remarks nor words.
in justification of my conduct. & the conduct of
the Society towards the Indian People.

You have his account. by which evidence
you judge, I have departed very far from
my duty. You may have my account
in these lines. & give the preference to which
you think proper. - I expect & wish to
be governed by the precepts of the Gospel
even the paragraph. You wish me to remember
to men of low estate. The clothes of an
scholar. shall be preserved.

I enjoy (through the goodness of God) with my
family good health. & hope the same
inestimable blessing ^{may be} he restored, & long
continued to you & yours. With every grace
wherby we may be qualified for an abundant
entrance. With our charges into the everlasting
Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ -

Tender my respects to Sister Finley. Bro & Sister
Barrows &c. &c. May God Almighty bless you
in the arduous & important station committed to you
Oversight.
Rev J. B. Finley
Missionary W. P. 3
Yours in the honor of the Gospel
Geo. W. Mealy